CLAIMS

We claim:

1.   A method for displaying actions which may be executed with respect to a document, comprising the steps of:

    defining for a view a plurality of actions, each said action characterized as static or dynamic, with each said dynamic action characterized by respective hide-when criteria;

    responsive to user selection of a next document characterized as to be evaluated, for each said dynamic action evaluating said hide-when criteria; and

    responsive to said hide-when criteria, selectively showing or hiding a corresponding action.

2.   A method for presenting actions which may be performed with respect to a document, comprising the steps of:

3   responsive to user selection of a next document,

4   evaluating prospective actions as static or dynamic;

5   for dynamic actions, evaluating hide-when criteria

6   returning true when said dynamic action is to be hidden

7   for said next document; and

8   displaying in an action list those prospective actions

9   for which said hide-when criteria evaluated true.

1   3.   A method for displaying actions appropriate with

2   respect to successive documents, comprising the steps of:

3   during action creation, defining a hide-when formula

4   for each dynamic action;

5   during view creation, defining a plurality of actions

6   applicable to said view and, responsive to at least one

7   said action being a dynamic action, characterizing said

8   view as to be evaluated; and

9   responsive to user selection of a next document for

10   presentation in said view, which next document is

11   characterized as to be evaluated, selectively hiding or

12   showing each said action applicable to said view.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of, during action creation, providing for each action a record including text attributes, action button, and a hide-when formula.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of setting said hide-when formula to null for static actions.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of defining said hide-when formula for dynamic actions by reference to a current document parameter or field.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of displaying all actions applicable to said current view responsive to said current view being characterized as not to be evaluated.

8. The method of claim 4, further during view creation defining for each said view a view record including document filter, formatting specification, action selection list and an action to be evaluated flag.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

2   setting an action to be evaluated flag to true for each

3   view including a dynamic action;

4   displaying those actions for which said hide-when flag

5   evaluates false and either said action has no hide-when

6   formula or said hide-when formula evaluates true.

1   10. System for presenting actions which may be executed

2   with respect to a document in a view, comprising:

3   for each prospective action, an action record including

4   hide-when evaluation indicia; and

5   for each prospective view, a view record including an

6   action selection list and an action to be evaluated

7   flag, said action to be evaluated flag being set to

8   true if at least one action in said action selection

9   list is a dynamic action.

1   11. The system of claim 10, said document including a data

2   field, and said hide-when evaluation indicia

3   referencing said data field.

1   12. The system of claim 11, further comprising:

2   a display for presenting to a user in a view panel a

3   current document and an action list dynamically

4   configured to hide prospective actions for which said

5   hide-when evaluation indicia evaluates to hide.

1   13.   A program storage device readable by a machine,

2   tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a

3   machine to perform method steps for displaying actions which

4   may be executed with respect to a document, said method

5   steps comprising:

6   defining for a view a plurality of actions, each said

7   action characterized as static or dynamic, with each

8   said dynamic action characterized by respective hide-

9   when criteria;

10   responsive to user selection of a next document

11   characterized as to be evaluated, for each said dynamic

12   action evaluating said hide-when criteria; and

13   responsive to said hide-when criteria, selectively

14   showing or hiding a corresponding action.

1   14.   A program storage device readable by a machine,

2   tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a

3   machine to perform method steps for displaying actions which

4   may be executed with respect to a document, said method

5   steps comprising:

6   responsive to user selection of a next document,

7   evaluating prospective actions as static or dynamic;

8   for dynamic actions, evaluating hide-when criteria

9   returning true when said dynamic action is to be

10   presented for said next document; and

11   displaying in an action list those prospective actions

12   for which said hide-when criteria evaluated false.

1   15. A program storage device readable by a machine,

2   tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a

3   machine to perform method steps for displaying actions

4   appropriate for execution with respect to a document, said

5   method steps comprising:

6   during action creation, defining a hide-when formula

7   for each dynamic action;

8   during view creation, defining a plurality of actions

9   applicable to said view and, responsive to at least one

| 10 | said action being a dynamic action, characterizing said |
| 11 | view as to be evaluated; and |

12	responsive to user selection of a next document for
13	presentation in said view, which next document is
14	characterized as to be evaluated, selectively hiding or
15	showing each said action applicable to said view.

1	16. The program storage device of claim 15, said method
2	steps further comprising the step, during action creation,
3	of providing for each action a record including text
4	attributes, action button, and a hide-when formula.

1	17. The program storage device of claim 16, said method
2	steps further comprising the step of setting said hide-when
3	formula to null for static actions.

1	18. The program storage device of claim 17, said method
2	steps further comprising the step of defining said hide-when
3	formula for dynamic actions by reference to a current
4	document parameter or field.

1	19. The program storage device of claim 18, said method
2	steps further comprising the step of displaying all actions
3	applicable to said current view responsive to said current

4   view being characterized as not to be evaluated.

1   20.   The program storage device of claim 16, said method

2   steps further during view creation defining for each said

3   view a view record including document filter, formatting

4   specification, action selection list and an action to be

5   evaluated flag.

1   21.   The program storage device of claim 20, said method

2   steps further comprising the steps of:

3   setting an action to be evaluated flag to true for each

4   view including a dynamic action;

5   displaying those actions for which said hide-when flag

6   evaluates false and either said action has no hide-when

7   formula or said hide-when formula evaluates true.

1   22.   A computer program product or computer program element

2   for displaying actions which may be executed with respect to

3   a document according to method steps comprising:

4   defining for a view a plurality of actions, each said

5   action characterized as static or dynamic, with each

6   said dynamic action characterized by respective hide-

7   when criteria;

8   responsive to user selection of a next document

9   characterized as to be evaluated, for each said dynamic

10   action evaluating said hide-when criteria; and

11   responsive to said hide-when criteria, selectively

12   showing or hiding a corresponding action.